

# **BURNHAM SQUARE**

**Bay gelding by Liam's Map – Linda by Scat Daddy**

**Breeder: Whitham Thoroughbreds LLC (Kentucky)**

**Birth date: April 9, 2022**

**Owner: Whitham Thoroughbreds  
(Janis Whitham and her son Clay Whitham)**

**Trainer: Ian Wilkes**

**Jockey: Brian Hernandez, Jr.**

**Lifetime Record: 8 3-2-1**

**Lifetime Earnings: \$1, 057,755**

## **BURNHAM SQUARE**

- Enters off a runner-up finish, beaten ½ length, in the 1 1/16 miles Matt Winn (G3) at Churchill Downs June 8.
- Two starts back finished sixth in the Kentucky Derby (G1) on May 3.
- Became a Grade 1 winner with a nose victory in the 1 1/8 miles Blue Grass at Keeneland April 25.
- Third-generation homebred is not named for a geographical place. Burnham Square is a type of quilt pattern. Liz Whitham, the wife of Clay, is a hobby quilter.
- Burnham Square was gelded because he was difficult to train when he was young. Clay Whitham said he wouldn't be where he is today if he were a colt.
- These same connections return to the Haskell for the first time since homebred McCracken was nosed at the wire to finish second in 2017.

## **BREEDING**

- Sired by Liam's Map, who won the 2015 Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile at Keeneland.

- He is Liam Map's fifth Grade 1 winner as of July 7.
- Third generation Whitham homebred.
- Burnham Square's great-grandfathers on the top and bottom of his pedigree are Kentucky Derby winners.
- He is a paternal great-grandson of Unbridled, winner of the 1990 Kentucky Derby and Breeders' Cup Classic and the champion 3-Year-Old Male.
- Through his maternal line Burnham Square is the great-grandson of Sunny's Halo, the 1983 Kentucky Derby winner and 1982 champion 2-Year-Old Male.
- Burnham Square is a paternal grandson of Unbridled's Song, winner of the 1995 Breeders' Cup Juvenile and the 2017 Leading Sire.
- Unbridled's Song sired six Breeders' Cup winners including Arrogate (Classic).
- His homebred dam, Linda, was a Grade 2 winner (2016 Mrs. Revere).
- Linda is a daughter of Scat Daddy, who was off to a sensational career at stud before he suffered a fatal heart attack at age 11 in 2015.
- Among the multiple Grade 1 winners sired by Scat Daddy is Justify, the 2018 Triple Crown winner.
- Burnham Square's maternal granddam, Beautiful Noise, was also a Grade 2 winner (2001 Santa Ana Handicap) for the Whithams.
- Burnham Square is by far the most successful of Linda's seven foals.

## **WHITHAM THOROUGHBREDS LLC**

- Janis Whitham, 93, owns Whitham Thoroughbreds.
- Whitham and her husband, Frank, who died in a plane crash in 1993, bought their first Thoroughbreds in the 1970s after racing quarter horses in the 1960s.
- Frank was a rancher and a banker.
- Janis grew up on a farm and was riding ponies by age 6.
- With Frank, she owned and raced the great Bayakoa (ARG), a Hall of Famer who won 21 of 39 starts and an amazing 12 Grade 1 races.
- Bayakoa, who was trained by Hall of Famer Ron McAnally, won both the 1989 and 1990 Breeders' Cup Distaff and was a two-time champion.
- After Frank's passing, she continued the family's racing and breeding operation.
- Whitham bred and raced Grade 1 winners Affluent and Mea Domina.

- She also teamed with trainer Ian Wilkes and jockey Brian Joseph Hernandez Jr., to win the 2012 Breeders' Cup Classic with homebred Fort Larned.
- Homebred Walkathon, trained by Wilkes and ridden by Hernandez, Jr. was a multiple graded stakes winner in 2022-24. The mare was sold for \$1.5 million at last November's Keeneland breeding stock sale.
- She chooses all her horses' matings and names almost all the foals after small towns in western Kansas. Burnham Square is an exception.
- Her son, Clay, is a banker and serves as spokesman and general manager of the operation.

## IAN WILKES

- Haskell record: 1 0-1-0
- Born May 25, 1965 in Muswellbrook, Australia.
- Finished second in the 2017 Haskell when the Whitham homebred McCracken was nosed at the wire.
- Grew up on a dairy farm in New South Wales, Australia and began working with racehorses as a groom and exercise rider at age 16.
- He worked in the stables of Paul Sutherland, Vic Thompson Jr. and Colin Hayes.
- During his two years with Hayes, he arranged through a mutual friend to come to the U.S. and work for Racing Hall of Fame trainer Carl Nafzger.
- After arriving in the U.S. in 1989, Ian galloped horses for a year and a half.
- One of his regular mounts was Unbridled, who won the 1990 Kentucky Derby (Grade 1) and Breeders' Cup Classic (Grade 1) en route to earning an Eclipse Award as champion 3-year-old colt. Unbridled in Burnham Square's paternal great-grandfather.
- Ian returned home for three years to train racehorses but rejoined Nafzger in 1993, serving as the stable's top assistant until early 2006.
- Wilkes was Nafzger's key assistant when Street Sense won the 2007 Kentucky Derby after finishing second in the Toyota Blue Grass (Grade 1).
- When Nafzger began scaling back his operation in 2005 and moved into semi-retirement in 2006, he turned the bulk of his stable over to Wilkes, who is based in Louisville.
- Won the 2012 Breeders' Cup Classic with Fort Larned, who was bred and owned by the Whithams.

- Fort Larned came back in 2013 to win the Stephen Foster (Grade 1).
- The Whithams homebred Walkathon won multiple graded stakes in 2022-2024.
- Leading trainer at Kentucky Downs in 2011.
- First Grade 1 winner was in the 2009 King's Bishop at Saratoga with Captain Candyman Can.
- Won 2010 Carter (Grade 1) with Warrior's Reward.

## **BRIAN HERNANDEZ, JR.**

Haskell record: 1 0-1-0

Born Nov. 3, 1985, in Lafayette, La.

- This is his second Haskell mount. Finished second by a nose on McCracken for the same connections in 2017.
- Made history in 2024 by winning the Kentucky Oaks (Thorpedo Anna) and Kentucky Derby (Mystik Dan), becoming the first jockey since Calvin Borel in 2009 to win both the Kentucky Oaks and Derby in the same year (and the eighth jockey all-time).
- Regular rider for Thorpedo Anna, the 2024 Horse of the Year and champion 3-Year-Old Filly.
- Comes from a family of jockeys. Father Brian Hernandez, Sr., and sister Courtney Hernandez were former jockeys while brother Colby Hernandez currently rides at Evangeline Downs.
- Won 2004 Eclipse Award as leading Apprentice Jockey.
- Captured the Breeder's Cup Classic on his 27<sup>th</sup> birthday aboard Fort Larned, whom he piloted to his first Grade 1 that year in the Whitney at Saratoga.
- His first graded stakes win came in the Grade 2 Indiana Derby at Hoosier Park with Cielo Gold.
- Got his first win on Nov. 29, 2003, on Hughes at Delta Downs.
- He has earned riding titles at Ellis Park, Evangeline Downs, Kentucky Downs and Turfway Park.
- Rode 2009 Haskell winner Rachel Alexandra in her first five career starts as a two-year-old in 2008.